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Joe is a native of Wisconsin. He started his undergraduate studies at the University of Wisconsin but received his B.S. in forestry at the University of Michigan. In addition, he did some graduate work in forestry and engineering at the Universities of Michigan and Cincinnati. A veteran, Mendel served nearly 3 years in the army during World War II.

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Veneer-Log Production and Consumption in the Central States 1958

By

Joseph J. Mendel

A slight downturn was noted in the production and consumption of veneer logs in the Central States from 1956 to 1958. Production of veneer logs in 1958 amounted to 52.6 million board feet, a decrease of 3.3 percent from that recorded in 1956. Consumption of veneer logs by the 56 active veneer mills in the Central States amounted to approximately 54 million board feet, a decrease of 7 percent from that of 1956.[1/] The excess of consumption over production, amounting to 1.4 million board feet, is accounted for by an excess of imports into the Central States region over exports.

Kentucky Leading Producer

Despite the 3.3 percent decrease in the production of veneer logs, the relative status of the producing states or principle species harvested did not change. Kentucky remained the leading producer of veneer logs with nearly one-fourth of the total production in the Central States (table 1). Indiana ranked second, followed by Illinois and Ohio. Missouri and Iowa combined produced one-fourth of the total output.

Black walnut was the principal veneer species harvested in the region, accounting for almost one-third of the total veneer-log production; walnut stumpage harvested was valued at more than $1,600,000.[2/] Cottonwood, used primarily for container veneer, ranked second in volume produced, accounting for one-fifth of the total production. Other leading species were white oak, yellow-poplar, and red oak, each accounting for 3 million or more board feet. These five species represent 72 percent of the total 1958 production.

1/ One large mill did not report and is excluded from all volume data.

2/ Calculated on the basis of $110 per 1,000 board feet. McCauley, Orris D. Forest Products Prices in Ohio-1958. Cent. States Forest Expt. Sta. Tech. Paper 161, 10 pp., illus. 1959.

Table 1.--Veneer log production in the central states by source, destination and species--1958

Source	Destination	Volume in 1,000 board feet, International 1/4-inch rule															Percent of Total	Percent Change From 1956
		Red Oak	White Oak	Hickory	Sycamore	Elm	Cum	Y. Poplar	H. Maple	S. Maple	Cherry	Walnut	Beech	Cottonwood	Other	All Species		
Ohio	Ohio	6	29	163	283	1,052	82	379	849	344	67	344	822	205	247	4,772	9.1	+ 2.2
	Other Central States	191	1,481	-	-	-	-	35	115	-	34	979	-	-	20	2,855	5.4	+ 2.5
	Outside Central States	275	28	-	-	-	-	66	-	-	11	23	-	-	5	408	0.8	- 68.1
	Total	472	1,538	163	283	1,052	82	480	964	344	112	1,346	822	205	272	8,035	15.3	- 8.0
Indiana	Indiana	433	1,906	27	141	73	220	654	537	22	200	4,062	6	178	418	8,877	16.9	- 1.9
	Other Central States	23	38	28	3	3	-	-	-	7	-	464	-	448	27	1,041	2.0	+ 200.0
	Outside Central States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	456	1,944	55	144	76	220	654	537	29	200	4,526	6	626	445	9,918	18.9	+ 5.6
Illinois	Illinois	9	28	-	165	99	96	-	29	90	-	184	-	4,833	84	5,617	10.7	+ 1.7
	Other Central States	33	428	41	11	-	165	275	29	-	-	1,356	-	550	143	3,031	5.7	+ 5.3
	Outside Central States	-	-	-	84	-	143	174	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	402	0.8	- 42.4
	Total	42	456	41	260	99	404	449	58	91	-	1,540	-	5,383	227	9,050	17.2	+ 8.1
Kentucky	Kentucky	202	723	-	37	-	170	510	31	-	41	2,223	-	-	29	3,972	7.6	+ 1.0
	Other Central States	76	429	236	663	257	429	1,034	3	-	-	877	-	865	88	4,957	9.4	- 34.1
	Outside Central States	1,657	2	3	169	14	569	494	19	24	-	5	-	170	43	3,169	6.0	+ 202.1
	Total	1,935	1,154	239	869	271	1,174	2,038	53	24	41	3,105	-	1,035	160	12,098	23.0	- 3.3
Missouri & Iowa 1/	Missouri & Iowa 1/	391	20	-	-	64	-	-	416	198	10	444	-	2,310	3,238	7,091	13.5	+ 20.9
	Other Central States	20	182	-	73	106	-	-	28	-	15	4,284	-	580	175	5,463	10.4	- 19.9
	Outside Central States	100	3	-	-	293	-	-	25	242	-	-	-	-	253	916	1.7	- 66.0
	Total	511	205	-	73	463	-	-	469	440	25	4,728	-	2,890	3,666	13,470	25.6	- 12.4
All Central States	Central States	1,384	5,264	495	1,376	1,654	1,168	2,787	2,037	661	367	15,217	828	9,969	4,469	47,676	90.7	- 2.0
	Outside Central States	2,032	33	3	253	307	712	734	44	267	11	28	-	170	301	4,895	9.3	- 14.5
	Total	3,416	5,297	498	1,629	1,961	1,880	3,521	2,081	928	378	15,245	828	10,139	4,770	52,571	100.0	- 3.3
Percent of total		6.5	10.1	0.9	3.1	3.7	3.6	6.7	3.9	1.8	0.7	29.0	1.6	19.3	9.1	100.0		
Percent change from 1956		+2.1	-22.0	-30.0	-7.0	-14.8	-18.4	-35.1	+7.4	-57.3	+130.3	+24.6	-16.5	-5.2	+33.4	-3.3		

1/ Combined to avoid possible disclosure of individual mill receipts.

Indiana Primary Consumer

Indiana was the leading consumer of veneer logs, using almost half the total Central States consumption (table 2). Illinois, Missouri-Iowa (combined), Kentucky, and Ohio followed in that order, each consuming 10 to 15 percent of the total. Kentucky registered the greatest decline in consumption, principally due to mill closures. Since 1956, five of the ten mills in Kentucky have gone out of business. Four other mills closed in the Central States: In Ohio, two mills went out of business and one was destroyed by fire; in Indiana, one small mill ceased production. The total active veneer mills in the Central States now number 56 of which approximately 26 are primarily container veneer producers.

Table 2.--Veneer logs consumed at Central States mills in 1958

Source of Logs	Volume consumed - 1,000 board feet 1/					Total consumption by source		Change from 1956
	Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Kentucky	Mo. & Iowa 2/	1,000 board feet	Percent	Percent
Ohio	4,772	2,855	--	--	--	7,627	14.1	+ 2.3
Indiana	316	8,877	555	170	--	9,918	18.4	+ 5.6
Illinois	--	2,033	5,617	447	550	8,647	16.0	+12.7
Kentucky	--	4,958	--	3,972	--	8,930	16.6	-22.0
Missouri	--	863	800	--	5,369	7,032	13.0	+ 9.0
Iowa	275	2,727	798	--	1,722	5,522	10.2	-11.5
Imported 3/	723	2,684	534	1,728	664	6,333	11.7	-33.0
Total consumption	6,086	24,997	8,304	6,317	8,305	54,009	100.0	- 7.1
Percent of total	11.2	46.3	15.4	11.7	15.4	100.0		
Percent change from 1956	+7.6	-13.1	+20.5	-22.0	-4.4	-7.1		
Species								
Red oak	6	790	150	471	392	1,809	3.3	-27.7
White oak	29	4,731	88	1,647	20	6,515	12.1	-21.0
Hickory	163	305	28	--	--	496	.9	-30.3
Sycamore	284	804	242	48	136	1,514	2.8	-12.5
Elm	1,053	330	209	--	64	1,656	3.1	-10.5
Gum	82	704	95	286	--	1,167	2.2	-48.2
Yellow-poplar	281	1,927	--	620	--	2,828	5.2	-48.1
Hard maple	849	1,229	36	61	416	2,591	4.8	+ 6.5
Soft maple	345	23	98	--	198	664	1.2	-41.9
Cherry	67	1,017	--	82	10	1,176	2.2	-37.3
Walnut	1,651	11,233	1,165	2,961	534	17,544	32.5	+26.1
Beech	822	6	--	--	--	828	1.5	-19.7
Cottonwood	206	1,043	5,860	--	3,298	10,407	19.3	- 7.3
Other	248	855	333	141	3,237	4,814	8.9	+28.8
Total consumption	6,086	24,997	8,304	6,317	8,305	54,009	100.0	- 7.1

1/ International 1/4-inch rule.
2/ Combined to avoid disclosure of individual mill data.
3/ Logs harvested outside Central States.

In consumption as well as production, black walnut was the principle species, accounting for almost one-third of the total veneer-logs consumed in Central States mills. Cottonwood ranked second, representing one-fifth of the total consumption; and white oak was third, accounting for more than one-tenth of the total. Combined, these three species represent more than 60 percent of the total veneer-log consumption.

Imports Exceeded Exports

Inter-regional movement of veneer logs and imports from foreign countries amounted to 11,228,000 board feet. Incoming shipments from adjoining states and foreign countries totaled 6,333,000 board feet representing more than one-tenth of the total consumption of veneer logs by Central States mills and exceeding outgoing shipments by 1,438,000 board feet. Michigan

and Pennsylvania were the largest suppliers of veneer logs providing 1.7 million and 1.1 million board feet respectively. Other important suppliers were Virginia and West Virginia.

Black walnut accounted for two-fifths of the imports. Cherry, white oak, and red oak each accounted for one-tenth or more of the total imports. Combined these four species represented 77 percent of the incoming veneer logs.

Outgoing shipments of veneer logs grown in the Central States amounted to 4,895,000 board feet or almost one-tenth of the total veneer-log production. West Virginia was the principal recipient of these shipments, receiving half the total. Only two other states received veneer logs from the Central States: Tennessee received 30 percent, and Wisconsin 20 percent of the total. Red oak was the principle component of outgoing shipments amounting to 42 percent of the total. The only other species of significance were yellow-poplar and gum, each of which accounted for 15 percent of the total.

Though no detailed data can be presented, it is estimated, on the basis of species used and knowledge of the various plants, that approximately 60 percent of the veneer logs produced in the Central States went into commercial veneer including face and core stock, and 40 percent were utilized in the production of container veneer.

The data presented in this report are from the second biennial canvass of the veneer industry. Similar canvasses are planned for alternate years to help provide information for the continuing forest survey of the Central States as well as to chart the production and consumption developments of the veneer industry in the Central States.